Yale College March 4th 1822

Very Dear Friend

After so long delay, in answering your affectionate Letter, which I assure was very acceptable received, I will now devote a short time, in writing to one whom I indeed respect, and who holds a high place in my affections. That I have not done this before, is owing to two causes, one, that at the time the mail directed to Farmington closed last week, I was almost entirely engaged in setting my lessons. the other, that I might have interesting news to communicate to you concerning the state religion in College

As to my present employment. I am still pleased with it. There are many things in college, to render it pleasent. Time has seemed to pass away this term, more imperceptibly than the last, and I begin to think I shall find it, as those more advanced have told me, that the longer I continue in college the more rapidly will time seemed to have fled. Our studies this term are Algebra, Majora, and, Livy. Concerning the Societies of which you visited me to write you. I must tell you that I am but very little acquainted, with the Brothers. They are required to be kept secret from each other, so that the transactions of the one are not known to the other. One is allowed to be about as good as the other. almost all the Farmington scholars of late, have

belonged to the Linonian. I have joined this, and ~~as to the~~ I can assure you that it is an excellent Society. I think it one of the most useful things pertaining to college, it is the source from whence taste is corrected, talents displayed, and that style of writing obtained which will accompany one through life, The exercises consist of Forensic disputations, Dialogues, compositions, and declamations Besides the Linonian and Brothers, there is the Calepean, which is composed chiefly of Southerners. The meeting of all of them are held every wednesday evening. Each society has a room prepared for the purpose. The appointments for the Junior Exibition (which is at the close of this term) are assigned. Simeon Hart, and Timothy Rogers both have one. Mr Hart has the second Colloquy, and Rogers the dialogue. Your information respecting the State of religion in Farmington was interesting and encouraging. I shall be anxious to hear from there now, and expect you will write me soon,

The prospects of a revival here is indeed brightening. Mr Kettle has been in town most of the time since the term commenced, I have heard him preach many of the sermons here, which he did in Farmington, though not at all the less interesting on this account. That sacred flame (of humiliation and prayer) which was enkindled about the close of last term, in the hearts of christians, has in some good measure spread, and we trust has begun to call down a blessing from Heaven. The cloud of Divine influence has for some time seemed to be gathering and darkening over our Heads, and the first droppings have already descended, so as to afford pleasing intimations to christians that a plentiful shower will follow, though they still rest in hope as to the state of things in the city perhaps, I cannot tell you so much, as you have probably before heard, I have attended several of the meeting in the conference room (a room much like the ~~academy~~ hall in F— though not as large I think).

they were very much crowded, and truly interesting, while Mr Nettleton was preaching above, the members of the Church had a prayer meeting below, which seem almost to bring back the scenes of last winter at an anxious meeting last week I understood there was about fifty present I have before told you, that I defered writing you last week, that if possible I might have more interesting communication to give you respecting college, I trust I have not waited in vain, there has not been so much alteration among one week as the last, at the meetings for conversation with Mr Nettleton, there has been but about 16 until last friday evening I attended, there was 27 then, though three or four who have hopes yesterday morning I understand there was about thirty five though not half of them professors under very serious impressions, still there are some under very deep impressions. Since the beginning of this term, there has been three in the Freshman class hopefully converted, and as we trust brought to find joy, and peace in believing. and one or two in the upper classes. This is encouraging to the hearts of christians here, and it must be to all. For not college the fountain from whence flow most of the streams that make glad the city of our God? from whence go most of the heralds of salvation? As long then as there are so many, or even any, pursuing the broad road to destruction, whose influence and example might extend over thousands, ought not the prayers of all who have any interest at the throne of grace to be unceasing for the conversion of sinners here as well as every where, especially when there are such favourable appearances as at present we trust they will. As I have already encroached upon study hour I must conclude by subscribing myself Yours affectionately S G Gilbertson

A Phelps (I trust you will not imitate my example of delay, for I am very anxious to hear from you

6

Mr. Samuel Phelps

Farmington

Conn

NEW-HAVEN CO.
MAR
5

Yale College